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Copyright © 1978 Published by Elsevier Science Ltd.**Thermal decomposition of asphaltenes****Speros E. Moschopedis, Sat Parkash and James G. Speight**Fuel Sciences Division, Alberta Research Council, 11315-87 Avenue, Edmonton,
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Abstract

The thermal decomposition of Athabasca asphaltene at relatively low ($< 350^{\circ}\text{C}$) temperatures is believed to proceed by elimination of groups situated on peripheral sites of the asphaltene. More severe degradation of the asphaltene structure does not occur until elevated ($> 350^{\circ}\text{C}$) temperatures are attained.

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